

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMSRECEIVED
CENTRAL FAX CENTER

SEP 01 2005

Listing of Claims

1. (currently canceled).
2. (currently canceled).
3. (currently canceled).
4. (currently canceled).
5. (currently amended) ~~The method of claim 4 wherein producing comprises~~
A method of reducing noise audible from a speaker, the method comprising:
receiving an audio status signal indicating a change in audio program content from an
audio device;
producing a control signal from said audio status signal indicating whether or not audio
program content is imminent in an audio signal from said audio device, said producing
comprising incrementing a counter value in response to said audio status signal;
maintaining said control signal active while said counter value is greater than a
predetermined value; and,
transmitting said control signal, for use by a speaker controller operable to provide a
speaker drive signal to said speaker in response to said audio signal and said control
signal.
6. The method of claim 5 wherein producing comprises decrementing said counter value in
response to said audio status signal.

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7. The method of claim 6 wherein producing comprises setting said control signal inactive when said counter value is equal to said predetermined value.
8. The method of claim 7 wherein setting comprises writing to a register in control of the state of said control signal.
9. (currently canceled).
10. (currently canceled).
11. (currently canceled).
12. (currently amended) ~~The method of claim 1 further comprising~~
A method of reducing noise audible from a speaker, the method comprising:
producing a control signal indicating whether or not audio program content is imminent in an
audio signal operable to be transmitted to a speaker; and
transmitting said control signal for use by a speaker controller ~~operable~~ controlling the
operation of a digital to analog converter operable to produce said audio signal, in response to
said control signal to provide a speaker drive signal to said speaker in response to said audio
signal and said control signal.
13. The method of claim 12 wherein controlling the operation of said digital to analog converter comprises controlling an input to said digital to analog converter in response to said control signal.
14. (currently canceled).
15. (currently canceled).
16. (currently canceled).

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17. (currently canceled).

18. (currently canceled).

19. (currently canceled).

20. (currently amended) The apparatus of claim 19 wherein said

An apparatus for reducing speaker noise, the apparatus comprising:

a control signal generator operable to produce a control signal indicating whether or not audio program content is imminent in an audio signal, said control signal generator receiving an audio status signal indicating a change in audio program content from an audio device, said audio program content operable to be transmitted to a speaker, said control signal generator comprising a counter having a counter value which is incremented in response to said audio status signal indicating a change from no audio content contribution to an audio content contribution by said audio device, said control signal generator is being operable to maintain said control signal active while said counter value is greater than a predetermined value ; and,

a transmitter operable to transmit said control signal for use by a speaker controller operable to provide a speaker drive signal to said speaker, in response to said audio signal and said control signal.

21. The apparatus of claim 20 wherein said counter value is decremented in response to said audio status signal.

22. The apparatus of claim 21 wherein said counter causes said control signal to be rendered inactive when said counter value is equal to said predetermined value.

23. The apparatus of claim 22 further comprising a register in communication with said counter, for controlling the state of said control signal.

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- 24. (currently canceled).
- 25. (currently canceled).
- 26. (currently canceled).
- 27. (currently canceled).
- 28. (currently canceled).
- 29. (currently canceled).
- 30. (currently canceled).
- 31. (currently canceled).
- 32. (currently canceled).
- 33. (currently canceled).
- 34. (currently canceled).
- 35. (currently canceled).
- 36. (currently canceled).
- 37. (currently canceled).

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38. (currently canceled).

39. (currently canceled).

40. (currently canceled).

41. (currently canceled).

42. (currently amended) ~~The apparatus of claim 40 wherein said control signal generator comprises~~
An apparatus for reducing speaker noise, the apparatus comprising:
a computer including a processor and memory;
an operating system in the memory for creating commands for controlling operation of audio
devices connected to the computer;
a control signal generator for producing a control signal, the control signal generator comprising
a counter having a counter value which is incremented in response to at least one of the
commands indicating a change from no audio content contribution to an audio content
contribution by an audio device; and,
a speaker controller connected to a speaker, to the computer and to an audio device, the speaker
controller being responsive to the control signal for providing a speaker drive signal to the
speaker when audio program content is imminent in the audio signal from the audio device.

43. The apparatus of claim 42 wherein the control signal generator is operable to maintain the control signal active while the counter value is greater than a predetermined value.

44. The apparatus of claim 43 wherein the counter value is decremented in response to at least one of the commands indicating that audio program content is not included in an audio signal from an audio device.

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45. The apparatus of claim 44 wherein the counter causes the control signal to be inactive when the counter value is equal to the predetermined value.
46. The apparatus of claim 45 further comprising a register in communication with the counter, for controlling the state of the control signal.
47. (currently canceled).
48. (currently canceled).
49. (currently canceled).

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